

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00205 01 OF 02 040910Z

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 RSC-01

/031 W

----- 017350

R 031451Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1229

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LUSAKA 0205

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CODEL (DIGGS, CHARLES)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KAUNDA RECEIVES CONGRESSMAN DIGGS

1. PRESIDENT KAUNDA RECEIVED CONGRESSMAN DIGGS AND ME
IN NEAR HOUR-LONG AUDIENCE AT STATE HOUSE ON SUNDAY,
FEB 2. KAUNDA SPOKE HIGHLY OF PRESIDENT FORD; INQUIRED
ABOUT CONDITIONS IN US; REVIEWED RHODESIAN SITUATION;
AND RAISED QUESTIONS ABOUT SEEMING INDIFFERENCE OF
WEST AND US TO SERIOUSNESS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEM.

2. AT INVITATION OF KAUNDA, DIGGS SUMMARIZED RECENT
ELECTIONS IN US; PROGRESSIVE COLORATION THIS HAS
GIVEN NEW CONGRESS; HIS HOPES FOR REPEAL PERHAPS
IN EARLY MARCH OF BYRD AMENDMENT; AND AMERICAN
CONCERNS OVER INFLATION AND RECESSION. BOTH KAUNDA
AND MUDENDA (ALSO PRESENT AT MEETING IN ABSENCE
OF FONMIN MWAANGA IN ZAIRE) WERE GRATIFIED AT
FAVORABLE PROSPECTS FOR REMOVAL OF "PSYCHOLOGICALLY
SIGNIFICANT" IMPEDIMENT TO SHARPER US POLICY ON
SOUTHERN AFRICA.

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PAGE 02 LUSAKA 00205 01 OF 02 040910Z

3. KAUNDA SAID HE TRULY PUZZLED BY SEEMING INDIFFERENCE OF WEST TO STRUGGLE IN AFRICA FOR FREEDOM, HUMAN DIGNITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE. REGRETTED THAT AREA ASSIGNED LOWEST POSSIBLE PRIORITY IN WESTERN FOREIGN POLICIES WHILE WEST AT SAME TIME ADVOCATING GLOBAL INDEPENDENCE. IN DISCUSSING THIS APPRENT CONFLICT IN WESTERN POLICY, KAUNDA SAID WEST WAS UNCONSCIOUSLY GIVING DISTINCT POLITICAL ADVANTAGE TO EAST WHICH HAD SEIZED IT BY OPEN AND DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. KAUNDA UNDERSCORED THE IMPORTANCE TO THE WEST OF MAKING FRIENDS NOW AMONG LIBERATION GROUPS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA SO "THEY WILL REMEMBER" WHEN THEY HAVE WON THEIR INDEPENDENCE. KAUNDA APPEARED DEEPLY TROUBLED AND OFFENDED BY THE SEEMING DISREGARD OF THE WEST FOR THE LOSS OF LIFE AND THE INDIGNITIES OF OPPRESSION WHICH CONTINUE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. HE WONDERED AROUND WHY SUCH CALLOUSNESS WAS PRACTICED BY THE CHRISTIAN WEST AND ASKED IF IT COULD BE RELATED TO CAPITALISM. HE SAID SITUATION WAS DOUBLY HARD FOR HIM TO UNDERSTAND BECAUSE HE IMPRESSED BY PRESIDENT FORD AS GOOD, HONEST

AND SINCERE MAN.

4. ON RHODESIAN QUESTION KAUNDA SAID DISCUSSIONS "HAD RUN INTO A HITCH" WHICH PRESIDENTS OF THE FOUR MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED BLACK STATES (ZAMBIA, BOTSWANA, TANZANIA AND FRELIMO) HOPED TO SORT OUT THIS WEEK IN MEETING WITH AN UNIDENTIFIED ANC LEADER COMING IN FROM RHODESIA. KAUNDA THEN MADE A REFERENCE TO ZANU'S NDABANINGI SITHOLE WHO INSISTENTLY MAKING PUBLIC CALLS FOR MAJORITY RULE WITHIN SIX MONTHS. KAUNDA ALSO SPOKE OF IAN SMITH'S REFUSAL TO SEE TWO BRITISH EMISSARIES.

5. COMMENT: IT WAS LEFT OPEN WHICH OF THESE TWO FACTORS OR BOTH WERE THE CAUSE OF THE HITCH. WE ASSUME SITHOLE'S FREE WHEELING POLITICAL TACTICS
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PAGE 03 LUSAKA 00205 01 OF 02 040910Z

SINCE RELEASE FROM DETENTION TOGETHER WITH ZANU'S MILITANT STANCE HAVE BEEN DISRUPTIVE FACTORS. IT MAY WELL BE SITHOLE WHO IS BROUGHT TO LUSAKA TO SEE IF PROGRESS IN A MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE IS TO BE RESUMED BETWEEN SMITH AND THE RHODESIAN NATIONALISTS.

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00205 02 OF 02 040911Z

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ACTION H-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1230

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AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LUSAKA 0205

6. KAUNDA CHARACTERIZED SMITH AS "A SLIPPERY CHARACTER" WHO HAD NOT YET LEARNED THE LESSONS OF AN OLDER MAN OF THE AREA, SIR ROY WELENSKY, A RECENT VISITOR TO ZAMBIA WHO, KAUNDA SAID, IS NOW A CONFIRMED ADVOCATE OF MAJORITY RULE.

7. INDIRECTLY KAUNDA DIFFERED WITH SITHOLE'S PERCEPTION ON THE TIMING OF MAJORITY RULE. HE RECALLED HAVING STATED IN SRI LANKA THAT OPPRESSION OF THE BLACKS IS CENTURIES OLD; CANNOT BE REVERSED OVERNIGHT AND REQUIRES TIME AND PATIENCE; SAID MAJORITY RULE IS INEVITABLE. THIS, HE ADDED, IS IMPORTANT FOR THE WEST TO RECOGNIZE "OPENLY AND MORE ACTIVELY."

8. KAUNDA THEN ASKED TO PUT SOME QUESTIONS TO DIGGS. WHY HAD A MAN OF DON EASUM'S STATURE AND ARTICULATE CONVICTIONS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA BEEN SUDDENLY REPLACED? WHAT DID THIS MEAN FOR US POLICY? WHY WOULD A MAN ASSOCIATED WITH US POLICY IN CHILE AT THE TIME OF ALLENDE'S OVERTHROW AND WITH LITTLE AFRICAN EXPERIENCE BE NAMED AS EASUM'S

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PAGE 02 LUSAKA 00205 02 OF 02 040911Z

SUCCESSOR? KAUNDA SAID HE HAD INSTRUCTED FOREIGN MINISTER TO COMMUNICATE ZAMBIAN VIEWS ON MATTER DIRECTLY TO SECRETARY KISSINGER. KAUNDA RECOGNIZED THE SUBJECT WAS DELICATE BUT SAID BECAUSE DAVIS WOULD BE DEALING WITH AFRICAN AFFAIRS, "THE MATTER DIRECTLY CONCERNS US."

9. IN REPLY, DIGGS REFERRED TO DAVIS AS "HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL" BUT WITH LIMITED AFRICAN EXPERIENCE INDEED. KAUNDA WAS SURPRISED TO HEAR FROM DIGGS THAT PRESIDENT MOBUTU HAD DEPLORED THE CHANGE IN ADDRESSING THE RECENT KINSHASA MEETING. I ADDED A WORD IN DEFENSE OF DAVIS AS AN HONORABLE FRIEND AND DISTINGUISHED COLLEAGUE, POINTING OUT THAT AMBASSADORS TAKE INSTRUCTIONS. KAUNDA JUSTILL QUESTIONED THE APPOINTMENT, NOTING THAT WHEN HIS SUBORDINATES MAKE MISTAKES AS THEY DO, IT IS HE WHO HAS TO TAKE ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR ACTIONS. KAUNDA CONCLUDED BY SAYING HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE PROPOSED CHANGE.

10. KAUNDA THEN INVITED MUDENDA'S COMMENTS. THE FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER URGED DIGGS TO SEEK ACCELERATED CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON REPEL OF THE BYRD AMENDMENT AND TO ENCOURAGE DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPRESSING UPON THE SAG THAT CHANGE IN ITS OWN SOCIETY IS AS INEVITABLE AND NECESSARY AS MAJORITY RULE IN THE FORMER PORTUGUESE COLONIES AND ELSEWHERE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. MUDENDA SAID ALTHOUGH WE ARE COORDINATING TACTICS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA WITH SAG, THEY NEED OUTSIDE PRESSURE AND CONTACT TO KEEP THEM ON THE RIGHT PATH. HE ADDED SOUTH AFRICANS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO REPLAN THEIR OWN SECURITY BY "BALKANIZING" HOMELANDS RIMMING SOUTH AFRICA.
WILKOWSKI

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